

CLAIMS

1 1. A computer readable medium having stored therein computer readable program  
2 code for performing Bit Error Rate Testing (BERT) on a digital system, the digital  
3 system including a test equipment coupled to at least one transmission line for  
4 transferring digital information between the test equipment and a company office  
5 comprising instructions for performing the following steps:

6

7 causing storage of a plurality of predetermined profiles, each profile having  
8 associated therewith at least one parameter for measuring the integrity of a test  
9 equipment or transmission lines, said at least one of the parameters including at least  
10 one of test pattern;

11 transmitting the predetermined profiles through the transmission lines  
12 automatically in a predetermined order thereby avoiding user interaction; and

13 receiving information responsive to the profiles through the transmission line,  
14 wherein the received information is verified against the information included in the  
15 profiles for determining the integrity of the test equipment or the transmission lines.

1 2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said profiles further include an error  
2 threshold parameter for setting the tolerance beyond which errors in the test  
3 equipment or transmission lines being tested are unacceptable.

1 3. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said profiles further include a test  
2 duration parameter for setting the time by which the BERT will be completed.

1 4. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said profiles are automatically provided  
2 to each of the transmission lines, the lines being tested together without awaiting  
3 completion of testing of a line prior to starting testing of another line.

1 5. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein during said storing step, said profiles are  
2 stored in a RAM.

1 6. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said profiles are individual alterable by  
2 the user thereby providing customization of the BERT to fit the various  
3 characteristics of the test equipment or transmission lines undergoing testing.

1 7. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said method is employed by an Internet  
2 Service Provider (ISP).

1 8. A digital system for performing Bit Error Rate Testing (BERT) comprising:

2  
3 a test equipment coupled to at least one transmission line for transferring  
4 digital information between the test equipment and a company office;

5  
6 a bit error generator coupled to the transmission lines for generating test  
7 patterns;

8  
9 means for storing a plurality of predetermined profiles, each profile having  
10 associated therewith at least one parameter for measuring the integrity of the  
11 test equipment or the transmission lines, said at least one of the parameters  
12 including one of the generated test patterns, the predetermined profiles being  
13 automatically sent in a predetermined order thereby avoiding user interaction,  
14 said test equipment for receiving information responsive to the profiles sent  
15 through the transmission line,

16  
17 wherein the received information is verified against the information  
18 included in the profiles for determining the integrity of the test equipment or the  
19 transmission lines.

1 12. A digital system as recited in claim 8 wherein during said storing step, said  
2 profiles are stored in a RAM.

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